

ONCE A REPUBLIC

The Imperial State of Missouri
Once Was a Government
All of Its Own.

W. L. Webb, of Independence, a local historian, is responsible for bringing again to light the fact that Missouri at one time was a republic all of its own.

"This fact," says Webb, "was officially and legally declared in the preamble to the state constitution under which Missouri was admitted to the union in 1821."

"Congress was in an uproar for two years over the admission of Missouri, but no objection was at any time urged against the clause that declared the state to be a 'republic.' The first constitution continued in full force until overthrown by the Civil war."

"As a republic, the State of Missouri had its own flag, a beautiful ensign of blue merino with the coat-of-arms of the state emblazoned in gold-gilt on each side. This flag and the stars and stripes floated together in perfect accord until the war broke out, whereupon the state of Missouri denied the right of any hostile army to trespass upon her sacred soil, and therefore flew to arms against the forces which invaded the state under the United States flag."

"For one whole year Gen. Price marched up and down the state at the head of the Missouri state guard which carried the blue merino flag and fought many great battles and was victorious in all of them. After the battle of Pea Ridge, March 7, 1863, the Missouri state guard disbanded and General Price accepted a commission in the Confederate army, whereupon the state flag was furled forever. In its stead came the Seash or Confederate flag. But the state of Missouri did not cease to be a legal republic until 1865 when the Drake constitution went into effect."—Ex.

Must Pay for Newspapers.

That a newspaper that is left and read at a man's home must be paid for and that the fact that the newspaper was "not ordered" does not constitute a valid relief from indebtedness was held by a jury in the circuit court this week when judgment for \$30.30 was returned in favor of A. T. Ankrom against W. E. West. Plaintiff sued for subscription to the St. Louis Republic from July, 1910, until September, 1914, at the rate of 65 cents a month.

According to testimony at the trial, West had subscribed for a certain period when the Republic was conducting some sort of a contest. West subscribed through Miss Tina Houston, who was one of the contestants. When his subscription expired he continued to receive it and read the newspaper, though it had not been ordered longer than the time stated in the subscription given to Miss Houston.—Mexico Intelligence.

Some Deep Holes.

There are eleven drill holes in Missouri that have penetrated to a depth of more than 2,000 feet, according to a table issued by the state geologist, H. A. Buehler, of Rolla. These and other deep holes are the result of prospecting for mineral, oil, gas or an adequate water supply. St. Louis for many years had the deepest wells in the United States. The Belcher well at Main and O'Fallon streets, started in 1849 and completed in 1854, reached a depth of 2,199 feet. It antedates the first deep wells in the United States up to that time. The St. Louis insane asylum well, completed in 1869 (depth 3,843 feet), when drilled, was also the record depth in the country, and is still the deepest well in Missouri by more than 1,100 feet.

Horse Sense.

A horse that refrains from eating is using the horse sense method of curing itself of some intestinal trouble. Nature sometimes fails, so take no chances but go to the aid of nature as soon as you see something wrong with your horse and give it a dose or two of B. A. Thomas Stock Remedy. If it does not respond at once, this medicine costs you nothing and its just as sure with cows or sheep. We give your money back.

25 O. K. M. Im C. C. Rhodes.

Breaking in New Shoes.

Slip a piece of thin paper between your stocking and the sole of your shoe. The shoes will not burn your feet.

SCOTT TO CONFER WITH GEN. OBREGON

Questions Arising Over Presence of Americans in Mexico to be Discussed.

PERSHING DRAWING IN FORCES

Funston Sends Orders to Concentrate Troops—Movement Already Begun—Villa Again Located.

San Antonio, Tex., April 25.—General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States army, and General Alvaro Obregon, Carranza's minister of war, will formally discuss at El Paso or at some other agreed point near there, the questions that have arisen because of the entrance into Mexico of General Pershing's punitive expedition. Just when this conference will take place will depend upon when General Obregon can reach the border.

General Scott received his instructions to meet him there late today after he had already purchased his transportation and made his sleeping car reservations on a train for Washington. He had intended to leave here for the East in the morning. He will remain here until it is known when General Obregon can get to El Paso. It is assumed that it will require three or four days for the Mexican minister of war to make the trip.

Drawing in His Forces. General Funston sent to General Pershing today the preliminary orders for the reconcentration of his troops along the lines he had recommended and which had been approved. Already General Pershing has begun drawing in the mobile forces that have been operating considerably in advance of the southern terminus of his long line of communication and the line itself will be materially shortened. His headquarters will be moved from Nami quipa to Colonia Dublan in the environs of Casas Grandes, and stronger units will be grouped along the shortened line from Columbus to a point considerably nearer the border than at present.

Bandits Again Located.

The new disposition of troops, it is expected, will serve the purpose not only of defense, but will enable General Pershing to make rapid and effective moves in any direction in case there should be necessity for action. This new alignment of the forces will be maintained pending developments incident to the diplomatic negotiations.

Reports from General Pershing today indicated that Francisco Villa had been located again, this time west of Parral, in the mountains of western Chihuahua. General Funston regarded the information that General Pershing had secured as authentic. No troops have been sent in pursuit of Villa.

Will Stay in Mexico. Washington, April 24.—Behind the formal announcement today that President Wilson had approved a plan for redispotion of the American troops in Mexico, there was a plain intimation tonight that the Washington government had determined to maintain a military status quo beyond the border until the Mexican de facto government has demonstrated its ability to capture or crush Villa and his adherents and prevent repetitions of the Columbus, N. M., raid.

In the interim, it is understood the American troops will be so placed as to safeguard the border towns by virtually policing the area where General Carranza has been heretofore unable to check bandit operations.

The New Plan is Approved. Secretary Baker announced the approval of the redispotion plan after consultation with the President today over a joint report submitted by Major General Funston and Major General Scott, chief of staff, in conference on the border. The plan was proposed by General Funston and concurred in by General Scott.

"The statement I have made indicates nothing whatever on the subject of when the American troops will be withdrawn from Mexico. The whole subject of withdrawal of the forces is under arrangement and negotiation by the state department."

Scott and Funston Confer. San Antonio, Tex., April 22.—Maj. Gen. Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States army, and Major General Funston, in charge of operations along the frontier and in Mexico, personally discussed tonight the problems that have grown out of the punitive expedition in pursuit of Francisco Villa. General Scott arrived from Washington tonight and was met by General Funston, the two going immediately to General Funston's headquarters at Fort Sam Houston.

More Recruits Than Usual. Washington, April 25.—While 4,699 men have enlisted in the army since March 15, when Congress authorized an increase of 20,000, army officials today estimated that the actual net gain has been something over 2,000.

A Diaz Army is Forming. Washington, April 25.—Strong bands of Felix Diaz supporters are concentrating in the mountainous Mexican country opposite the Texas border, it was said at the Justice Department here today.

MAJ. ALEXANDER L. DADE



Maj. Alexander L. Dade of the Seventh cavalry is on active duty in the front ranks of Villa's pursuers.

FRENCH AVIATORS ARE BUSY

Many Bombs Dropped on German Positions—No Important Changes Reported on Any Front.

London, April 25.—Artillery bombardments alone are taking place on the French and Belgian fronts, the scene of the greatest activity being the region of Le Mort Homme and in the Argonne forest, with the Germans the aggressors in the former and the French in the latter sector.

French aviators in squadron formations have dropped large numbers of shells on German positions at Longuey, Stenay, Lun and near Montfaucon.

The fighting between the Russians and the Germans and Austrians along the eastern front continues at various points, but no important changes in position are reported. The same is true of the Austro-Italian zone.

Vienna reports an attack Easter Sunday by seven Italian aeroplanes on the city of Trieste, in which nine civilians, five of them children, were killed and five wounded.

The British in German East Africa are continuing their forward movement against the Germans, having now occupied the town of Kondoa in the Irangi region. Considerable casualties were inflicted on the Germans.

The British also have been successful in an operation near Deuda, Egypt, repulsing with heavy casualties a Turkish attack. In an engagement near Qualla village, however, the British were forced to retreat after an engagement with a Turkish column superior in numbers.

Constantinople, reporting on the repulse of the British at Fehle last week, says the British losses were more than 3,000, about 2,000 men being killed.

A defeat of the Russians in the center of the Turkish lines in the Caucasus region is reported by Constantinople, but the Russian war office announces that the Turkish efforts to advance were frustrated, and that a Turkish offensive in the direction of Kharpout checked.

London, April 24.—On the Verdun front, where for two months the Germans and French have been almost continuously in battle, the Germans, according to an estimate of the French war office, up to April 22, had used thirty divisions, or about six hundred thousand men, in the fighting or in reinforcing units which suffered heavy losses.

The Germans claim the capture of French trenches in the Verdun region southeast of Haucourt and west of Dead Man's Hill, while Paris records the taking of several German posts in the Avocourt wood. Hill No. 304 is again under the heavy bombardment of the Germans.

Trenches taken by the Germans from the British on the Langemarck-Ypres road have been evacuated owing to floods, which have made their consolidation impossible.

CONDENSED NEWS ITEMS

—The seven Villa bandits who were captured after the raid on Columbus, and convicted of murder in the first degree, were condemned to death the other day by Judge Edward L. Medler. The date of the execution was set for May 19.

—The Dutch steamer Berkelstroom, bound from Amsterdam with a general cargo, was sunk by two German submarines. The crew was given fifteen minutes to leave the ship and the submarines then shelled it with their guns for four hours.

—Twenty houses were blown from their foundations, many barns were demolished and much live stock killed by a violent windstorm which swept Longview, Tex., and the country between there and Big Sandy late the other day. So far no persons have been reported killed.

—House Democrats and Republicans, after having worked together harmoniously for four and one-half months, are on the verge of a clash over the legislative program for the remainder of the session.

ST. CLAIR MAY PAY

Judge Van Valkenburgh Suggests a Way to Settle the Old Bond Debt.

PUTS IT UP TO THE TAXPAYERS

County Has Chance to Dispose of Old Liability by Paying Fifteen Cents on Dollar.

A payment of \$600,000, or fifteen cents on the dollar, will wipe out the cloud of bonded indebtedness which has been hanging over St. Clair county, Missouri, forty-five years and end an ancient feud, if the recommendation of Judge A. S. Van Valkenburgh of the federal court is accepted by the county.

The debt now amounts to more than 4 million dollars. The bondholders signified their intention before the informal hearing of St. Clair county property owners last month of abiding by Judge Van Valkenburgh's decision.

Judge Van Valkenburgh's recommendation was made after careful analysis. He is acting in the capacity of mediator and seeks a settlement for the best interests of all involved. His opinion is made without regard to merits or demerits of the original controversy.

The question now is up to the taxpayers of St. Clair county. An election to vote on the bond issue to liquidate the debt probably will be set by the county court for the latter part of July.

It is suggested the bonds be for twenty years, bearing not more than 4 1/2 per cent interest. Judge Van Valkenburgh points out in his recommendation that a tax of eighty-five cents a year on \$100 property valuation will wipe out the entire debt. The assessed valuation of the county is \$5,203,490 and the debt, with the cost of litigation, judgments and interest, is \$4,031,593.51.

Representatives of each township in St. Clair county, elected at township mass meetings, were present at the informal hearing in the federal court in Kansas City in March. Opposition to any compromise measure was manifest then, but Judge Van Valkenburgh believes it was by the more radical residents that the present proposition will have a good chance for adoption at an election.

Engine Blew Up—One Dead.

Charles Cook, a fireman of Brookfield, Mo., was killed, and H. W. Anderson, engineer, was severely injured when the locomotive boiler of the train blew up on the Burlington road about twenty miles from St. Joseph. The train was No. 56, bound for Chicago, and the engineer saved the lives of many passengers by staying on the engine until he stopped the train. The fireman also stayed at his post and could not escape.

Woman Burned in House.

Miss Maggie Swope, 60 years old, was burned to death in her home ten miles northeast of Warrensburg recently. She had prepared breakfast for her brother and a farmhand who lived with them, and the men had gone to the fields to work. In a short time they saw the house in flames. By the time they reached the house it was impossible to enter. The body of the woman was found in the debris.

New Officers for Springfield.

Soon after Springfield became a city of the second class Mayor J. J. Gideon appointed Fred A. Moon, Democrat, city attorney; Barney Rathbone, Republican, chief of police, and W. R. Price, Democrat, chief of the fire department.

St. Joseph School Head Resigns.

J. A. Whiteford, superintendent of schools in St. Joseph twelve years, has resigned and Vernon G. Mays, principal of the Lincoln, Neb., high school was elected to succeed him.

New Charge Against Dr. Hyde.

Prosecutor Floyd E. Jacobs of Jackson county has filed a new information against Dr. B. C. Hyde, charging murder in the first degree by poisoning with "strychnine and cyanide of potassium." The former information, filed in 1910, charged poisoning by "strychnine and other poisons unknown to the jury." This is the only difference in the informations.

Judge Harris of Centralia Dead.

Judge Robert G. Harris, 78 years old, is dead at his home in Centralia. He was the father of State Senator Frank G. Harris of Columbia and Jas. Harris of Jefferson City.

Missouri Beats Colorado.

Missouri defeated Colorado in the recent debate, taking the affirmative of the question of a material increase in the United States army and navy.

Vote \$500,000 for Roads.

The \$500,000 bond issue for roads in Jefferson county carried in the special election recently by a majority of more than 2 to 1. The unofficial vote from all except nine small precincts gave the proposition 3,047 votes, with 1,377 against it.

Aged Pettis County Woman Dead.

Mrs. Francis Paralee Botts, 92 years old, died the other night at the home of her son, Elmer Botts, four miles south of Sedalia. Besides her son she is survived by two daughters.



The "boss" knows that the man who is putting money in the bank is not wasting time spending it. He must be on the job, he knows the value of his job and his time—he doesn't lose either. He knows time is money—He wants money.

When he gets it he puts it in the bank. It is safe there. It helps to have a bank book.

Have one.

BANK WITH US.

Missouri State Bank
"THE OLD RELIABLE."

Low Rates on Farm Loans

We are in a position to make farm loans at a low rate of interest on either 5, 7 or 10 years time, with privilege of making partial payments on interest paying dates. All payments of principal and interest payable at our office. We make abstracts to all real estate in Bates county at reasonable rates.

The Walton Trust Co.
BUTLER, MISSOURI

Current Loans \$8,000,000.00

What do You Say?

Hadn't you better get an IMPROVED EASY IRON and be one of the EASY family. small investment, big income, the EASY is the only way to iron. What these people say the rest of the family will stand by.



Have used the IRON about 2 months and like it fine.—MABLE DICKSON, Spruce, Missouri.

My Self Heating Iron I bought of Mr. Smith, I have been using 4 weeks, and have not found fault in any way.—MRS. EPRIE EADS, Montrose, Missouri, R. F. D. No. 31.

My Gasoline Iron, I bought of Mr. Smith is entirely satisfactory, and quite a labor saver.—MRS. WILL EADS, R. F. D. No. 31, Montrose, Missouri.

I can truthfully say that my Self Heating Iron has proved to me all and more than I expected.—MRS. A. M. MURPHY, R. F. D. No. 1, Butler, Missouri.

C. C. SMITH, Local Representative Telephone No. 1 on 14 Spruce, Mo.

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